

Methodist Church
Bodie, Mono County
California

HABS No. CAL-1924

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CAL.

26 Bodie

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Western Office, Division of Design and Construction
1000 Geary Street
San Francisco, California

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PHOTOGRAPH-DATA BOOK REPORT
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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METHODIST CHURCH

Bodie, Mono County, California

ADDRESS: Green Street, Bodie, California
OWNER: State of California
OCCUPANT: Vacant
USE: None

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Ghost Town of Bodie is a Registered National Historic Landmark and California Historical Landmark #341.

Placer gold was first discovered here in July 1859 and a quartz vein located in August, 1859; but though many efforts were made to exploit the area, it was not until 1874 that the great potential wealth of the district became promising. Bodie reached its peak in production in 1879-80 and the population reached 10-12 thousand. Total production of gold and silver is estimated at 90-100 million.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The Church was built in 1878 with Rev. George B. Hinkle as first Minister, under the jurisdiction of State of Nevada Methodist Mission. It is the only church building still standing in Bodie, and the only Protestant Church built in Bodie. It was restored in 1928 by E. J. Clinton, of Clinton Cafeterias in San Francisco, who engaged in an unsuccessful mining venture and conducted services as a lay minister until 1932, when the congregation finally disbanded and left the building idle and to the mercy of vandals.

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In 1962 the Town of Bodie was acquired by the State of California as a State Park, under the jurisdiction of the Division of Beaches and Parks, and the building is now protected.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL AND SOURCES

California State Historical Landmark No. 341
Cain, Ella M., The Story of Bodie, Fearon Publishers,
San Francisco 1956
Library of Congress Catalogue Card No. 56-11439
HABS Report, 1962: CAL-1918 Bodie - General
Historical Society, California-Nevada Conference, The Methodist
Church, Will P. Ralph, Secretary

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Exterior:

Overall Dimensions - Rectangular, approx. 28'-5" x 40'-5"
with Narthex 10' x 5'-3" and Annex to rear 12'-7" x 14'-5".

Foundations - Rock

Wall Construction - 2x6 studs, rustic siding with corner
boards and frieze board. T&G interior.

Openings - Entrance door: 5' x 8' double two-panel with
raised panels and mouldings. Pointed Gothic
arch transom over.

Windows: 2' x 8'-6", straight pointed head,
5/6 light double hung with parting bead.
4' round rose window in front gable end.

Roof - Pitch approx. $11\frac{1}{2}:12$, wood shingles, now partly
covered with roll roofing. Gable ends and eaves with
boxed in classic cornice.

Belfry - Small, with pointed head openings and hipped concave
metal roof with scroll ornaments along hips and finial.

Interior

Floor Plan - Single rectangular room with sanctuary and alter.

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Floor - 1x6 T&G pine.

Wall and Ceiling Finish - Wainscot: 1x4 beaded T&G vertical,
38' high.

Walls and Ceiling: 1x4 beaded T&G
horizontal 3/4" iron tie rods at
third points.

Doors - Four panel pine.

Trim - Plain stock trim and mouldings.

Lighting - Electric.

Heating - Wood stoves.

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December 1962

APPROVED:

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Date: Dec 19, 1962

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